



CATAWBA COUNTY

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VOTE FOR CATAWBA COUNTY'S MEALS ON WHEELS AMERICAN VOLUNTEER NOMINEE

HICKORY, N.C. — Catawba County's Meals on Wheels program has nominated Winnie Hovey for the American Volunteer Award. The organization is asking the public to vote for Hovey in the contest, which is sponsored by the Meals on Wheels Association of America.

The contest is featured on Facebook, and the top vote-getter will be named the winner. Hovey is a 92-year-old Hickory resident who has been volunteering with Meals on Wheels for approximately 30 years. She still makes her rounds, delivering meals to senior citizens in the county who cannot prepare their own food.

A video featuring Hovey was submitted to the contest by Catawba County Meals on Wheels, which is operated by Senior Nutrition Services of Catawba County Social Services. Vickie Redden, volunteer coordinator, said Hovey was chosen as this year's nominee because of her long and faithful service and her friendly manner.

On the video, one Meals on Wheels recipient tells the nominee, "I can be having a bad day, and you can come, and you are like a ray of sunshine."

Hovey modestly says, "I've always loved it and felt like it's the least you can do to help a lot of people. I don't know why more people don't want to do it, because it's a pleasant job. And you always feel like you've helped someone."

To vote for Catawba County's American Volunteer entry, go to <http://apps.facebook.com/americanvolunteer/entry/181500> and click on "vote for this video." You must be a Facebook member to vote.

The nominee receiving the most votes will receive the Jody Tepedino Nicholo Award, and the nominating program will receive \$1,000. The program with the second most votes will receive \$750, and the program with the third-most votes will win \$500. Voting will continue through Aug. 26.



Winnie Hovey of Hickory holds a typical Meals on Wheels meal. The 92-year-old has been volunteering with the program for approximately 30 years.